the margin of profit *vis-a-vis* manufacturing cost;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof, and

(e) if not, what are the reasons there for?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (e) There is no statutory price control over motorcycles, T.V., cement and paper and their prices, from time to time, are governed by input costs and market conditions.

In the case of sugar, the levy prices are determined as per the statutory provision of Section 3(3C) of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 taking into account minimum statutory cane prices, manufacturing cost of sugar, taxes, duties, etc. and a reasonable return on the capital employed in the manufacturing of sugar. The price of non-levy sugar is determined by the interplay of market forces.

As sufficient capacity has been created in these industries to meet the demand of the economy, market forces determine prices which restrict the profit margins *vis-a-vis* the cost of manufacture.

In some of the industries where prices are controlled and costs of production are estimated by the BICP, there are restrictions on the margins of profit over manufacturing costs, through various mechanisms, i.e., import policy (OGL with appropriate tariffs). Normally in these industries a rate of return on equity capital of 12% post-tax is allowed as element of profit while estimating total manufacturing costs.

Use of permitted additives in soft drinks by the manufacturers of soft drinks

2001. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstared Question 1349 given in the Rajya Sabha on 21st May, 1990 and state:

(a) whether the manufacturers of soft drinks have switched over to permitted additives;

(b) how many samples have been lifted and tested all over the country after the ban on BVO came in force, and the outcome thereof, State-wise; and

(c) whether it is a fact that BVO was banned in Italy for Limca, etc., if so, what are the reasons for which this was permitted in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Production of Dexamethasone and its salts

2002. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2018 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th November, 1988 and state:

(a) the names of the companies which have been licenced to produce Dexamethasone and its salts;

(b) what is the licensed capacity and what is the stage of manufacture of each;

(c) what was the production of each during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) what is the percentage of import content to ex-factory value of production in each case;

(e) the names of the units on whose production the cost and technical study was done before fixation of price;

(f) whether it is a fact that certain units are producing these drugs, based on imported intermediates;

(g) if so, what are the names of the imported intermediates and their cost of production of the drugs; and

(h) what is the quantity and CIF price of Dexamethasone intimate by each formulator on Form, 6 of DPCO, 1987?